US$ 410416 was rejected. On investigation, it was found that the concerned Export Inspection Agency followed the Ag-mark sampling scheme as it was not aware of US FDA sampling. Immediately purpose *vis-a-vis* mixed extraction vised to adopt US FDA sampling scheme for pre-shipment inspection of black pepper for export to USA,

The Spices Board is taking various steps to step up the quality of spices and improve packaging and marketing.

Export of high valued white natural grade Sesamum

860. SHRI VIREN J- SHAH:
SHRI PRAMOD MAHAJAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) what is Government's planning to promote exports of high valued whit$_e$ na tural grade sesamum used for food and confectionery and hulled grade for bake-ly purpose *vis-a-vis* mixed extraction grade;

(b^ whether it is fact that a few overseas buyers have imposed restrictions on import of sesamum from India on quality consideration; and

(c) if.; o. what steps are being taken ^{t0} evolve a mechanism for ensuring quality in exports?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SHANTILAL PURUSHOTTAMDAS PATEL): (a) Export Of sesamum seed, without distinction of different grades, is allowed under OGL subject to registration with Indian Oil and Produce Exporters Association (IOPEA).

(b) Government have not received re ports of overseas buyer countries having imposed restrictions on import of sesa mum from India on quality considera tions. IOPEA have also reported that they have not received any complaint of such restrictions by overseas buyers.

<c) Does not arise.

Disowning the FIR filed in Bofors Investigation Case

861. SHRI E. BALANANDAN: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether instructions were issued to the Additional Solicitor General to disown the FIR filed by the CBI in the Bofors Investigation Case before the Delhi High Court;

(b) if so the reasons therefor; and

(c) if the reply to (a) above be in negative, the reasons for opposing the CBI's FIR?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTRY OF LA\y AND JUSTICE (SHRI SUBRAMANIAN SWA-MY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(o) The Government did not oppose CBI's FIR.

Loss incurred by co-operative credit societies due to implementation of loim waiver scheme

862. SHRI M. M. JACOB; Will he Minister of FINANCE be pleased lo state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the loan Waiver Scheme has hit the co-operative credit societies to the tune $_0$f several thousand crores of rupees;

(b) if so, what is the amount comren-sated to the co-operative societies by Gov-ernment; and

(c) whether the scheme is still in vogue?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF

EXERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI **DIG**-VIJ AY SINGH): (a) to (c) The State Governments have formulated debt relief schemes for cooperatives on the pattern of Agricultural and Rural Debt Relief Scheme, 1990 of the Government of India and the same are being implemented by them For cooperatives, till 24th December 1990, 152 lakh beneficiaries have been identified and relief to 101 lakh out of them provided to an extent of Rs. 2, 481 crores. As per report available from the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development, an amount of Rs. 738 crores has been given as grant and Rs. 671 crores as loans to cooperatives for implementing the schemes. The implementation of the schemes is still in progress.

कपड़े के मूल्यों में वृद्धि

863. डा. अबरार अहमद: क्या वस्त्र मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या यह सच है कि इस वर्ष के दौरान कपड़े के मूल्यों में अत्यधिक वृद्धि हुई है, यदि हां, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं और सरकार द्वारा मूल्यों को घटाने के लिए क्या कदम उठाये जा रहें हैं; और

(ख) सरकार द्वारा गरीबों को सस्ती दर पर कपड़ा उपलब्ध कराने के लिए क्या उपाय किये जा रहे हैं ?

वस्त्र तथा खाद्य प्रसंस्करण उद्योग मंत्री (श्री हुकुमदेव नारायण यादव) : (क) मार्च, 1990 से नवम्बर, 1990 तक की अवधि के दौरान हथ-करघा सूती कपड़े की थोक बिक्री का कीमत सूचकांक में प्रतिशत वृद्धि 0.1 है तथा मिलों के सूती कपड़े की 3.5 है । इसी अवधि के दौरान विद्युत करघा सूती कपड़े की थोक बिक्री के कीमत सूचकांक में 2.1 प्रतिशत तक की गिरावट आई । इस प्रकार कपड़े की कीमतों में कोई अत्यधिक वृद्धि नहीं हुई है ।

(ख) सरकार समाज के कमजोर वर्गों की आवश्यकताओं को पूरा करने के लिए कन्ट्रोल कपड़ा योजना/जनता कपड़ा योजना चला रही है ।

News-item captioned 'Assistance sought in S*. Kitts Probe'

864. SHRI VISHWASRAO RAM-RAO PATIL:
DR. BAPU KALDATE:
SHRI A. G. KULKARNI:

Will the Minister of FINANCE **be** pleased to state;

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to the news-item cap tioned, 'Assistance sought in St. Kitts Probe' which appeared in the 'Times of India' dated the 29th November, !990

(b) whether Chandraswamy against whom warrants were issued for appearing before CBI has arrived in India; and

(c) whether it is a fact that his contacts are helping him to get th« cases quashed; if so, what steps the CBI is taking in the matter[7]

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE; AND DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINIS- ^ TRY OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRT DIGVLMY SINGH); (a) The PTI News Item dated 28th November, 1990 in 'Times of India' dated 29-12-1990 is captioned Letters Rogatory to 3 countries in St. Kitts Probe' and not "Assistance sought in St. Kitts Probe. " This news-item is factually correct. Six Letters Rogatory have been sent to US, Canada and St. Kitts seeking judicial assistance by CMM, Delhi on the request of CBl during October, 1990.

(b) Shri Nemi Chand Gandhi *alias* Chandrasamy has arrived in India on 25-11-1990. No warrants have **been** issued in this case for his appearance before CBI.